

ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

MONDAY, DECEMBER 20.

A Washington disputch says: There is a movement on foot among some of the Democratic members of the House to conduct all sessions of the various committees openly, and grant admittance to such persons as may have business before them. Such a move, if successfully endorsed and ordered by the House, would have a most salutary effect. It is a notorious fact that all the stupendous land grants and jobs generally which are rushed through Congress, are first manipulated in committees. There are very few members of Congress who are industrious enough to specially look up and keep themselves posted on all features of legislation, Heretofore the custom has been to usually take the report of a committee as an endorsement of the measure it might present to the House. Hence, lobby ists and their agents make their first point of attack with the committee, knowing that if they secure a majority of the members composing the one with which they are operating, it will be assumed in the House as a quasi endorsement of their interests. Such a procedure on the part of the House would also restrain the lobby, to some extent, from donating to committee rooms the condiments which give opportunity for high feeding. It is painful to state, but the fact is that several of the committee rooms of the last House were nothing more nor less than free bar rooms, open to such as were provided with or who could borrow a key to gain admirtance to the decanters and bettles.

The subject of the retrocession suit was be fore the Legislature, on Saturday, when the Speaker laid before the House a message from the Governor enclosing a communication from Attorney General Daviel, which calls the attention of the Legislature to the case of Phillips vs. Payoe, a suit instituted to have the re trocession of Alexandria county by the United States to Virginia, declared to be unconstitutional, as a portion of the population of that county are disaffected to the State, and desire to come again under the jurisdiction of the Through the Holy Land. United States; also, to the case of the United States vs. Russell and Scott, and United States vs. Black, the defendants being citizens of Petersburg, and judges and registrars of municipal election who are under indictment for alleged violation of the Enforcement act. These three cases are pending in the Supreme Court of the United States, and Attorney General Daniel submits the question whether the interests of the State should not be represented by her counsel. The subject was referred.

The Supreme Court of Appeals, on Saturday, refused the petition for an appeal from a decree of the Circuit Court of Fauquier in the case of Bolling vs. Armistead and others. The Special Court of Appeals, about two years ago, gave judgment in favor of Lersner, and the Circuit Court of Fauquier directed the commissioners to make the title to the Bollingbrook and Ben Lomand estates to Lersner. From that order Bolling endeavored to take an appeal, in which he was unsuccessful. He has, however, been successful in the case before the Supreme Court of the United States, where it will stick for some time to come.

Mr. Henry W. Elliott, of the Smithsonian Institute, and lately a special commissioner of the Treasury Department will in January next appear before the Senate Committee on Territories to give his views as to the propriety of enforcing civil government in Alaska. Mr. Elliott expresses himself as decidedly opposed to the bill introduced last week for that purpose by Senator Mitchell, and in favor of the adoption of the Sargent bill, the effect of which would be to revive and complete the statutes of 1868, which Mr. Elliott considers amply sufficient to protect the interests of the Territory.

Some of the county Commonwealth's attorneys say that there is an unjust discrimination made by existing law against them and in favor of prosecuting attorneys in cities. The latter get pay in criminal cases, whether they be asked to change the law.

The Centennial question, that is the propo sition to vote \$10,000 from the State Treasury in aid of the Philadelphia Fair next year, is now under consideration by the Finance Committee of the House of Delegates. So far Hon. F. W. M. Holladay, Centennial Commissioner, and Gen. Jos. R. Anderson, and Gen. Imboden, have spoken in favor of the proposition.

It will hardly do for New York city to apneal to the country for the \$100,000 necessary to place the colossal statue presented by France to America in position at the entrance to her harbor. The gift is one which adorns and benefits that city in a direct way, and she should pay the expense if she has the glory.

The offering of an amendment to the Constitution by Mr. Morton is an encouraging symptom that Mr. Morton has found out that the United States has such an institution.

The Grand Royal Arch Chapter of Virginia adjourned Friday night after a harmonious session. Wm. H. Lambert, of Alexandria, was elected M. E. High Priest.

The daily cost, per head of the inmates of 000. The acts of bankruptcy were forty days the penitentiary in 1866 and 1867 under Radcal rule, 55 cents; in 1875, under Democratic Conservative auspices only 14 cents !

In Baltimore, on Saturday morning, Archbishop Bayley ordained P. J. Moore, of Norwalk, Conn., for the Diocese of Richmond.

The Transportation Convention, in session in Chicago, on Friday adopted a series of resolutions calling for a law providing for the ap pointment of a Board of Railway Commissioners, with powers similar to those of the Massachusetts Railway Commissioner; against stock inflation; prohibiting representatives of the people from acting as agents or attorneys in cases where the public interest is involved; requiring public carriers to receipt for a quantity of a commodity and to deliver the same at its destination; providing for a uniform classification of merchandise, and forbidding the printing of conditions on bills of lading designed to evade responsibility, and for a common law or conditional provision against railroad competition. The resolutions also provide for the appointment of an executive committee whose usiness it shall be to disseminate information for the purpose of procuring legislation on the matter of transportation by the cheapest means

Lieutenant Weyprecht, who was with the Austro-Hungarian and German expeditions, has well said "that the Polar regions offer, in certain important respects, greater advantages than any other part of the globe for the obser vations of natural phenomena-magnetism, the aurora, meteorology, geology, botany and zo

A French writer who seems to be minutely equainted with the constitution of the Suez Canal Company asserts that the shares which the English Government has acquired confer no right of voting as long as the dividends are

Louisiana is setting up as a rival to Florida in the orange business, and large quantities of fruit are being daily shipped from that State to the North and West.

The Court of Appeals on Saturday adjourned to meet on the 5th of Japuary, when a new

EDITORIAL NOTES.

The battles of Asia are fought in European

Senator Morton is universally known as the 'bloody shirt' candidate for the Presidency. The definition of the word "moral" has been the subject of debate in the Mexican

A wearied young lady hastened the departure of a tedious caller by remarking, as she looked out of the window, "I think we are going to have a beautiful sunrise."

The petition filed by Congressman Randall for the repeal of the Check Stamp act was signed with 30,219 names, and was an eighth of a mile long.

Rev. C. C. Bitting, D. D., is to lecture before the Knights Templar of Fredericksburg on next Thursday night. Subject: Travels

wrinkle." Let them put the villian of their tale on board of a vessel carrying a box of dynamite, with a clock apparatus attached, by means of which a vessel may be blown to pieces

Wine is perhaps cheapest in the most temperate country in the world-the rural part of l'uscany; and drunkenness is less in Munich, where beer runs like water, than in London, where it costs, of the same quality, three times

The Enquirer goes in for the six year single term amendment, and wisely, says: "A President who understood that he could not be reelected would devote his term of official life to the study of statesmanship, instead of the trickery of politics. He would have only himself and the people to serve, and he could best serve himself by serving them."

Bishop Haven, in his letter to the Tribune, announces that he has excellent reason for believing that the Catholics desire "to make the Pope President." On which the World remarks: This is a terrible plot, truly, since it involves nothing less than getting the Pope, who is well on in years, born again on American soil. What a clever thing it is, therefore, in Bishop Gil to have hit upon a master stroke for countering it, by the simple process of making the President Pope.

C. & O. CANAL -President Gorman, of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, has been discharging a large number of his employees recently, and the Williamsport Pilot remarks that he "has commenced the work of retreachment and bung hole economy at the first blast of winter. and during the past week has discharged eight men, four from each company boat of this division, and we presume the same thing has taken place along the entire line." The Pilot further says: "And there is not more than six laborers on each boat, that leaves but two. To us this seems outrageous, for instead of discharging hands he ought to be hiring them. for the canal is badly in need of repairs, and now when the water is taken off, which will convict or not, and the former's pay is only be in a few days, is the only chance to make contingent on conviction. The Legislature will repairs. Every other President except A. P. Gorman had hands at work during the winter repairing and cleaning out the canal. But Purloin thinks different. If he pays out money to laborers during the winter, and thereby helps to keep comfortable, poor suffering humanity, he will not have the money at once to pay off that coupon for which he gets his per centage. While the canal laborer suffers and the canal goes to destruction, he, the incubus,

> LOUDOUN COUNTY SUFFERERS .- During the existence of the late civil war the citizens of Loudoup county, Va., suffered damages to their property to an extent probably not equalled by any other in the State, and for the reason that both armies were continuously operating within its limits. An important bill, looking to the relief of such sufferers, has been introduced in the Senate. It gives the names of some two hundred claimants, designating the amounts which each ought to receive, ranging from ten to ten thousand dollars. The aggregate of the sum asked for foots up \$199,-

Duncan, Sherman, & Co.

NEW YORK, Dec. 20.—Duncan, Sherman & Co., were adjudicated involuntary bankrupts on Saturday on a petition filed by Carter & Eaton, attorneys, and signed by over two hun of the Grand Lodge of Virginia, A., F. & age, when the House itself took the leading ofdred creditors, whose claims aggregate \$2,168,suspension of commercial paper and failure to pay a depositor.

A dispatch received at the British War Office from the Governor of the Straits settlements says the Malayans have retreated to the jungle, and the troops are pursuing them, with what result is not yet known.

NEWS OF THE DAY.

To show the very age and body of the Times." General Moriones has arrived at Santander o assume command of the Alfonsist forces in

A party of Mexican cattle thieves crossed the Rio Grande near San Felipe recently, and succeeded in running off eight hundred head of cattle and fifty horses. The citizens are organizing into companies, and threaten to cross

The steamer Salier, which replaced the Mosel, sailed from Southampton yesterday, after taking on board sixty passengers of the wrecked steamer Deutschland. The German Consul at Southampton assured the passengers that the most rigid examination had been made of and restored order therefrom. the Salier's cargo.

The United States express car on the St. ered Saturday morning by masked robbers, who locked up the express messenger in a package chest, broke open the safe, and stole about \$12,000. There is no clue to the rob-

The Republican party have an executive committee composed of one person from each years 1860 and 1875. State. A few years ago Henry H. Wells, jr., was appointed to represent Virginia in said committee. Having removed his residence he has been requested to resign his membership of said committee.

The Cuban insurgents have been quite active recently. On the 10th instant they burned the own of Jaquey Grande, and on the 12th they stopped a train of seventeen cars loaded with provisions and ammunition, within a mile of Valmaseda's camp, and after helping themselves to what they wanted fired the train.

There are no new developments in regard to the Chicago Whiskey Ring, and all inquiries at the Treasury Department have thus far failed to elicit any information as to what further investigations have been instituted to unearth the frauds. General Baboock did not put in an appearance at St. Louis on Saturday, but his counsel were before the court, and after some discussion, notice was ordered to be served on Babcock to appear and plead on the 11th of January.

Advices from Japan to the 25th ultimo say that the Mikado and his Government have triumphed over the revolutionists who wished to involve the country in war. A burglary had been committed at the United States Consulate, a considerable amount of property having been stolen. The Peking Gaz the publishes a decree requiring foreigners travelling in the Chinese provinces to take out passports. A hand of pirates recently made an attack on the Dutch fort and Residency at Menando, Celebes Islands, but were repulsed after gutting the house of the R sident.

Grant's Church and State Novelty.

The Richmond Methodist Episcopal clergy are yet giving their "views" in opposition to Bishop Haven's nomination of Gen. Grant. The Rev. J. J. Lafferty, one of the editors of the Richmond Christian Advocate, says:

As for taxing church property, this recommendation was made in malice to the Catholics. They are Democrats in the main. Grant turned the Jews out of his camp under pretense of their making off with contraband cotton. the father, Jesse Grant, as was nominated in the bond. The contract between the Jews and Jesse was published. So the good of the service marched the Israelites to the rear. To pre-When they want McCloskey stuff they will save the nation's life again by transfusing the Cardinal's property in their pockets. The President prophecies worse wickedness in high places in the future. He thinks the "contemplation of so vast a property" will turn this nation into sacrifigious thieves. The next generation will not be bummers. The gratitude for the Gospel and the fear of the gallows will save bese sacred places from plunder, I hope. I don't believe in taxing church property. Sheridan, in vandalism, destroyed the instruments of husbandry. Shall a civilized State sear the breasts of charity? Such a "finance" would in-dict the Sermon on the Mount as a lecture without license. Tax the Gospel? The lame would kick the fellow to a jelly who attempts to stop the hot spout with a chunk of ice. The rich can pay taxes on church property How about the missionary chapels in the Blue Ridge? Who has the cheek to propose to toll the pittance paid the preacher in that rugged tract for the benefit of fat State officials on high salaries? What footpad is schening to rob the Gospel going to the poor? The church pays her full quota of taxes in the prevention of crime, and the "costs." About the constitutional amendment forbidding any "religious" utterance in a public school room, we are not quite "pagan" nor "atheistic," to need that now. Haven must have soured Grant on "religion." The Boston bishop has only fly-blown his own church—not

Rev. A. C. Bledsoe, Rev. H. C. Cheatham and Rev. P. A. Peterson also express themselves in accord with the Rev. Mr. Lafferty. If the ministers continue thus to enlighten us in the pulpit on Sundays and in the newspapers during the week their congregations ought to raise their salaries.

EXTENSION OF THE CHESAPEAKE AND OHIO CANAL. -On the 16th instant there was a meeting at Westeroport, Md., of delegates from Alleghany and Garrett counties, and from Mineral county, in West Virginia. The object of the convention was to mature a plan for extending the Chesapeake and Ohio canal to erable repository of respectable decay, it could Savage river. James Park, of Barton, Md., not have more astonished that animated comepresided. Addresses were made by Patrick Hammill, Horace Resley and Alfred Spates. train from Richmond arrived in Alexan-The following resolutions were unanimously dria, and the passengers were amazed to find

Resolved, That this convention appoint a committee of five persons from Alleghany and hree from Garrett counties of Maryland, and one each from Mineral, Hardy and Grant counties of West Virginia, to prepare an address embodying the views and wishes of this con- thage when Marius, carpet-sack in hand, vention for presentation to the Legislature of sought a night's lodging. At last, wondering Maryland and the Congress of the United whether a plague had swept over the place, States, asking aid in the construction of this these Virginia gentlemen, bound for Washing mprovement; and be it further

deem it judicious and proper, appoint one or parted with both legs. As our humane Govmore of their number to represent this interest ernment gives legs only to these who fought before Congress and the Legislature of Mary- under our flag, this unfortunate was making land at the present session.

lowing named gentlemen were selected as such strangely depopulated Alexandria, he said the committee: Alieghany-Col. James M. Schley, entire people had gone over to take office un-Col. Horace Resley, G. W. Kirdow, John S. der the new postmaster of the House. He was eral-Col. John E. Wood; Grant-William I. time this year. This is, of course, an exag-Brown; Hardy-Thomas Maslin.

Mr. William I. Brown, of Grant county, gave an interesting statement of the coal measures of the section the extension will open. The following are the District Deputy Grand

Masters appointed by Grand Master Taliaferro, A. M.: No. 1, Joseph Hopkins, Alexandria. No. 11, W. A. Fiske, Portsmouth.

county. No. 15, Andrew Broadus, Luray, Page county.

No. 21, John R. Spillman, Warrenton. No. 22, R. S. Chew, Fredericksburg,

LETTER FROM RICHMOND.

Who Put Johnston Through?-Re- The Chesapeake and Ohio Beceivertrenchment and Reform—A Little Fun-The Philadelphia Centennial-Retrocession, etc., etc. Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette.]

RICHMOND, Dec. 19, 1875. Of course now that the Senatorial fight is ver there are numbers of members of both houses who claim the honor of putting Johnston through. Now the gentlemen who really did the work are Senator Quesenberry and Hon. R. A. Coghill, and of course they had supporters, but they were the men who led in plaintiffs and defendants in the case are resithe fight. Coghill especially deserves the deuts of the same State, (New York) which credit, as all was chaos until he went into it fact it is claimed ousts the jurisdiction of the

Ex-Governor Letcher's retrenchment and reform resolutions afforded much fun to some Louis, Kansas City and Northern train was en- of the members of the Senate yesterday. Mr. Allan moved to amend by adding to the resolution the following: "The relative cost of coal, rent, cotton, candles, bread, bacon, meats, molasses, veal, vegetables, coal oil, gas, servants hire, wine and whiskey, and dry goods, in the

So you see even the portly and stately Senators will have a little child's play by way of fun sometimes. Let the wearied mind unbend. Mr. Smith, or Nelson, also amended by in

serting the Governor's department. The bill for an appropriation of \$10,000 to the Philadelphia Centennial was brought up by Mr. Cochran, yesterday, in the Senate, and he made an ineffectual effort to get it read a second time. Lots of members crawled out about that time and dodged the question,

which sets them right on the record. The Speaker laid before the House a message from Attorney General Daniel, which calls the attention of both houses to the case of Phillips vs. Payne, a suit instituted to have he retrocession of Alexandria county by the United States to Virginia declared to be unconstitutional, as a portion of the population of that county are disaffected to the State, and desire to come again under the jurisdiction of the United States; also the case of the United States vs. Russel and Scott, and United States vs. Black, the defendants being citizens of Petersburg and judges and registrars of municipal election, who are under indictment for alleged violation of the Enforcement act. These three cases are pending in the Supreme Court of the United States, and Attorney General Daniel submits the question whether the in terest of the State should not be represented by her counsel. The message was referred.

The Stuart Orie case was again before the House, yesterday, and after much discussion was sent back to the people. This is about the proper way to manage such cases, and I expect the Senate Committee on Privileges and Election, before whom the election case of Knight vs. Johnson is pending, will do likewise or give the seat to Knight.

Yesterday was big day in both Houses, as you will see by the reports of the proceedings. STRONGBOW.

LEGISLATIVE.

House joint resolution appointing a special joint committee to ascertain the expenses of Government was read, and led to a long de-Government was read, and led to a long de- court took time to consider the several applicabate. The resolution embraces within its scope tions until the 30th of October, at which time turned out they had a permit to capture the bate. The resolution embraces within its scope | tions until the 30th of October, at which time 'rebel' bates; but they were not dividing with every species of expense to which the State is Tyson was appointed permanent receiver by put, including even the State's prison. A bill the court. Before the appointment was made, was introduced authorizing the town of Frederick-burg to issue bonds to redeem her antevent "sequestration, without constitutional authority and bloodshed," of churches, Grant wishes these religious places taxed. Taxing property, as the President knows, does not keep off "sequestration without constitutional authordepartment, was also reported.

In the House, Rev. H. A. l'upper prayed. The Speaker laid before that body a message from the Governor, transmitting to the Goneral Assembly a communication from the Attorney General in relation to certain suits now pending in the United States courts, relating to the retrocession of Alexandria to the District of Columbia, in which the State of Virginia is deeply interested, and asked that the subject should receive the prompt and careful consideration of the Legislature. Resolutions were introduced amending the code in reference to commissioners to chancery, and authorizing the board of supervisors of Elizabeth City county to borrow money to repair and rebuild the court house and jail of said county. A petition from Frederick county asking the repeal or modification of the tax on dogs was referred. An account of certain proceedings in the Federal courts, interesting to Virginia, was transmitted from the Attorney General, through the Governor. The contested election case of Opic vs. Stuart was then taken up, and variously debated. By a vote, the House finally resolved to remand the election to the people of Au-

Postmaster of the House of Representutives.

In its notice of the officers of the new Concress, the Washington Capitol of yesterday

"The poor gentleman selected to fill the remost unhappy. He seems to be an innocent, practical sort of man, and as he was elected as the most fit to fill the position, he proceeded to select subordinates from the same consideration. He was driven to take, of course, those he knew best, and these happened to be about the ancient city of Alexandria, Va. Had a thunder storm developed into a shower of quails on toast and manua, whatever that was -buckwheat cakes, we suppose-in that ventery. We are told that on a certain day the no porters, truckmen, ticket agents or loafers. The depot was a desert waste. Wending their melancholy way along the streets, they found the town like the depot, deserted. The street lamps were unlit, the drinking shops were closed, the hotels appeared like those of Carton and office, found on a corner an ex-Confed-Res dved, That said committee shall, if they erate, who, in sustaining the lost cause, had but slow progress on his stumps towards the geration, as we believe Alexandria has only in the postoffice of the House. Be this, however, as it may, we have faith in the postmaster of the House. He is a good fellow. And it is scarcely worth while rowing over his selections, contrary to the geographical patronficers from three adjoining States.'

No. 12, James A. Scott, Ashiand. No. 14, S. S. Neill, Berryville, Clarke uccted in New York.

The steamer L'Amerique, which was disabled on the voyage from New York to Havre, ar rived at Queenstown on Saturday night in tow of the Ville de Brest,

UNITED STATES CIRCUIT COURT.

ship-Motion to Dismiss Proceed-

A special term of the United States Circuit Court was to have been held in this city at 10 o'clock this morning for the purpose of hearing argument upon the motion to dismiss all proceedings in that court in the case of A. F. Richards and others, bondholders and creditors against the Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Company, on the ground that some of the United States court.

At the request of Mr. William M. Evarts, counsel for the railroad company, Judge Bond invited Chief Justice Waite to assist him at the hearing, in the absence of Judges Hughes, whose illness prevents his attending upon the court, and at 10 o'clock the Chief Justice and the counsel for the various interests involved in the suit and many members of the legal fraternity assembled in the court room, but owing to the absence of Judge Bond the Chief Justice announced informally that he had telegraphed to him, and that Judge Bond could not arrive before 1 o'clock, at which time the court would reassemble, and a recess was then taken.

The magnitude of the interests involved in this case make it one of more than ordinary notice, and the Supreme Court will doubtless finally be required to pass upon the intricate questions of State and Federal jurishetion which the issues involve.

The eminent counsel engaged, representing the various interests, are the Hon. William M. Evarts, of New York, and Judge Robert n, of Charlottesville, Va., for the railroad com pany; Judge Saipman and Mr. MacFarland of New York, for the trust es of the first mortgage six per cent. bonds, representing fifteen millions of bonds; Judge Storrs, of New York, for the trustees of the seven per ceut, mortgage bonds; Francis L. Smith, esq., of this city, representing \$150,000 of bonds; Judge Crump and Jas. Affred Jones, esq., of Ricamond, for sundry creditors and bondholders; and Judge Marshall and Colonel John Howard, of Richmond, representing interests of various parties adverse to the motion to dismiss. A brief outline of the history of the litigation

o its present stage as furnishing the boundary to the questions in controversy is as follows: On October 9, 1875, A. F. Richards and others, erednors and bondholders, filed a bill in this court alleging the insolvency of the company, praying that it be turned over to a receiver, and Henry Tyson was accordingly appointed temporary receiver, and the case set for hearing at Richmond as to the appointment of permaneut receiver. Before the hearing, sundry other creditors and boudholders filed their pe titions, praying to be made parties to the suit, among others the State of Virginia becoming a party, and on the 22d of October the case again came on for hearing in Richmond before Judge Bond, at which time most of the plaintiffs ber and amount to an unlimited extent, the reby In the Senate prayer by Rev. Mr. Steele, asked that Gen. Williams C. Wickham be ap causing a great depreciation in the market value however, the defendants made a motion, through their counsel, Mr. Evarts, at Richmond, to dismiss the cause, on the ground that the United States courts have no jurisdiction, because the parties to the suit are residents of the same State, (New York) and not of different States, which is the ground of Federal jurisdiction in this case. The counsel for the plainriffs, Judge Shipman, admitted the want of jurisdiction, and asked that they be allowed to withdraw the case from the United States court. The court took time to consider the motion, and fixed the hearing for to-day, and upon the suggestion of Mr. Evarts Judge Bood requested the Chief Justice to sit with him at the hearing of the motion, to which the Chief Justice assented.

Pending the decision of the question of juris diction of the United States court the same creditors, who, in conjunction with the railroad against Maj. D uglas, by a Washington caper, e mpany, are adverse to the appointment of coarging him with aiding a ring is u just and Mr. Tyson as receiver, filed another bid, likewise praying for a receiver, in the Circuit Court of Virginia at Richmond, and Judge Welford, bill. acting upon the application, appointed Gen. Williams C. Wickham, the former president of the road, the receiver to enter upon the discharge of his duties when he might lawfully members being absent, in Philadelphia, or at do so; and if the Circuit Court of the United home, the attendance of visitors has been States decides that it has no jurisdiction, Gen. "limited," and there have been no scenes or Wickham will enter upon the discharge of his duties by virtue of his appointment from Judge Welford.

At 2 o'clock the court reassembled, Judge Bond, who had been delayed by an interrup-

tion to the train, having arrived. D. L. Smoot, esq., representing Mr. New-comer, Mr. R. C Smith, and Caroline Dyer, bondholders to the amount of \$9,800, submitsponsible position of postmaster has been the parties plaintiff in the cause, which was grant ed. The petitioners in these cases prefer Tyson

> Francis L. Smith, esq., said that before the argument upon the case commenced he desired to present the petition of Auson Baugs, a creditor, who holds \$146,000 of the company's bonds, and asked leave to file the petition.

The Chief Justice requested Mr. Smith to read the petition, after reading which Mr. Evarts said these questions would all arise upon the argument. It the court had no jurisdiction it could enter no orders in the cause.

Mr. Howard, of Richmond, desired to present the petition of a judgment creditor, Mr. Schmuck, whose claim is \$100,000. The Chief Justice said all the claims would

be heard together. The Chief Justice said that the motion before the court is to dismiss the proceedings,

and counsel in favor of that motion would be heard first, and those resisting the motion

Mr. Evarts, counsel for the company, then opened the argument in favor of dismissing the proceedings in the United States Court. He claimed that the parties to the suit should have due notice of the application of the various parties who now desire to be made parties to the suit. He criticised the lapguage of the petition that miscalled the plaintiff's bill to foreclose the mortgage a cred-In accordance with these resolutions the fol- national capital. On being asked what had so itor's bill, and called attention to the distinction between the two. Mr. Evarts argued at length that the plaintiff had control over his case, and could dismiss it at pleasure; that the Grove, James Park; Garrett-William H. himself promised a place as messenger or mail plaintiffs were enforcing their mortgage, and Barnard, P. Hammit, Andrew Mullen; Min- carrier, and hoped to reach Washington some should their rights be controlled by others whose rights do not so arise? He referred to the recent United States statute to show that half enough able-bodied men to fill the places it is the duty of the court to dismiss the cause where it appears that the court has no juris diction, and to authorities to show that even though the plaintiff and defendant desired the court to retain jurisdiction where it held none, the decree in such a case would be a nullity. The court can make no order where it had on jurisdiction.

> Judge Robertson and Judge Storrs explain A Berlin telegram says the real name of ed the relations the parties to the suit bear to Thompson, the Bremerhaven murderer, was each other in respect to the various mortgages Alexander, and that he was respectably con- upon the road and the necessity of introducing into the cause these parties defendant, whose introduction oust the jurisdiction of the United States court.

Mr. Evarts then concluded his argument, same side, who quoted from Supreme Court | City Hotel, Alexandria, Va.

authorities to show that the trustees in a mortgage trust are necessarily controlling parties in

The following are the mortgage deeds up n the Chesapeake and Ohio R Broad ou taiding and unsatisfied: Deed of trust from the Virgioia Central Railroad Company to the Board of Public Works of Virginia to secure \$100. 000. April 1850.

Same to MacFarland to secure \$1,500,000

Same to John B Young and Ro't R. Howi son to secure \$300 000. February S. 1866. The Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Com

pany to Calhowa, Duncan, Octon, Maury, to secure \$10,000,000. Octobe: 1, 1868. Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Company to Philo C. Calhown, W. K. Kitchen, to secure \$15,000.000. O tober 1, 1872.

Chesapeake and Ohio Railroad Company to Wm. R. Duncan and Philo C. Calhown, to provide a yearly sinking fund of \$100,000, to

pay \$15,000,000. January 15, 1870. At the conclusion of Mr. MacFarland's remarks, the latter portion of which was quite caustic upon the pretensions of some of the small claimants, the Chief Justice announced that, supposing the arguments would have heen concluded to-day, he had made engagements with his professional brethren in Washington, which would prevent his being present to-morrow, consequently, when the Court adjourned this evening, it would be until Wed-

Mr. Smoot began to reply to Mr. MacFarland. and occupied the time of the Court until its adjournment, which took place at 5 o'clock, he Chief Justice and Judge Bond, and some of the couosel in the case, taking that train for Washington.

WASHINGTON LETTER.

[Correspondence of the Alexandria Gazette,] Washington, D. C., Dec. 18, 1875 -A few days since, under a call of the States, in the House, Major Douglas, of Virginia, introduced a bill to limit the Sinking Fund Commissioners of the District of Co'umbia in issuing bonds under the act of June 20, 1874, and changing the mode and time of paying the in-

terest thereon, the text of which is as follows : Whereas, by an act of Congress approved the twentieth day of June, eighteen hundred and seventy four, the Siaking Fund Commissioners of the District of Columbia are authorized to cause bonds of the District of Columbia to be prep red in ums of fifty and five hundred dollars, bearing date August first, eighteen hundred and soventy four, payable fifty years after date, and bearing interest at the rate of three and sixty-five hundredtus per centum per annum, payable semi-annually, to be signed by the secretary and treasurer of said Sinking Fund Commissioners, and countersigned by the Comp trolle of said District and the Register of the Treasury of the United States for the payment of which said bonds the faith of the United States is piedged, by causing to be levied upon the property within said District such taxes as will provide the reverue necessary to pay the interest on said bonds as it may become due and psyable and create a sinking fund for the payment of the principal thereof at maturity; and

Whereas, by the provisions of the act acressed, no limit or restriction is imposed on the Sinking Fund Commissioners of said District of

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the amount of the aforesaid bonds hereafter to be issued by the aforesaid Sinking Fund Commissioners be lim ited in amount to the sum of two million dol-lars, and no more; and that the semi annual interest accruing upon s.id bonds be provided for and made payable by the general annual appropriation bill of the Congress of the United

The purpose of the resolution is to restrict the issue of bonds, and the effect already has been to advance their value 21 per cent, on the market, while ho'ders are indisposed to sell even at the advance.

It is not intended to commit Congress to the authorization, absolutely, of the issue of any specific amount, but to restrict the Sick ing Fund Commissioners from going beyond \$2,000,000, a privilege they possess under the existing law-for by it they can issue an in left nice amount, and the secusations brought us warranted, and must have been made under an entire misapprehension of the intent of the

To-day has been the most quiet at the Capitel since the opening of Congress. Net her House is in session, and a m jurity of the incidents worth noticing.

COMMUNICATED.

THE Poor. - Let me say a word in behalf of the poor. Christ has is here, and to those who would help them, even in a small way, I would suggest that any contributions, either of money, food, or clothes, sent to the Orphan Asylum, will be equally and justly distributed by the ted a petition on their part praying to be made ladies of the Union Relief on Wednesday next. A little from your abundanc: will give to many a comfortable Christmas dinner, and rest assured your's will be none the less comfortable from the knowledge that a blessing rests upon you. For "blessed is he who considereth the I am not authorized by the society to make this appeal, but having seen something of its work, and the good results, take this

A party of forty hunters from the United States have been arrested and fined in Prescott and Russell counties, Ontario, for killing deer out of season.

Meats, Groceries and Produce.

S. J. REED respectfully invites the attention of the public to his choice stock of MEATS, GROCERIES and PRODUCE, at his old stand, No. 74 South Fairfax street,

where he will endeavor to please all who may favor him with their patronage. He has now on hand 20000 lbs choice FAMILY BACON, all of his own curing, put up expressly for family use, consisting of Hams, Breakfast Bacon, Sides, Shoulders, Jowls, Chine and Spare Rib. Pure Leaf Lard in small packages, expressly for families, Sausage Meat, Mince Meat, Dried Peaches, Cherries and Apples Cranberries and Peas, Potatoes and Beans; also tresh ROLL BUTTER, FRESH MEATS and POULTRY, of all kinds. All goods sold cheap for cash. Please give me a call dec 20

NOTICE TO GAS CONSUMERS. Bills for the quarter ending December 15th are now ready for delivery; All bills paid on or before the lst of January will be at the rate of \$3 per thousand cubic feet of gas. After the 1st of January ten per cent will be added. J. ROXBURY, Sup't.

HANCE FOR A CHEAP OVERCOAT. Over-Coatings at Cost ! Not wishing to carry over any of our Overcoatings, we propose closing them out at cost. Suitings, Trowserings, &c., at greatly reduced prices. Several suits made to order but not

called for will be sold very cheap.
dec 20
D. F. WITMER CO. NOTICE-All parties indebted to WM. F. BROOKES will please make immediate settlement with the undersigned. All accounts unpaid by the first of January next will be placed in other hands for collection. dec 20-2w P. B. HOOE, Trustee.

FOR RENT-An ELEGANT RESI-Mr. Evarts then concluded his argument, an was followed by Mr. MacFarland on the same side who quoted from Same and the very low rent. Apply to W. H. CHAPMAN,